GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2515
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2002
CELLULAR SERVICES IN NORTH EAST STATE
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cellular Mobile Telephone service is not in operation in all the North Eastern States of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Governments of the NE States have requested to withdraw the ban on cellular mobile operations imposed by the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) to (d): Sir, the Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) is operational, at present, in Guwahati and Shillong. Governments of some North Eastern States have requested that CMTSmay be provided in the North-Eastern States. However, further expansion or fresh start of CMTS is at present not permitted, by Private Operators as well as Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in the North East and Assam Telecom Circles covering the North Eastern States on security considerations.